

QUEER TERRE HAUTE STORY

Jealous Wife Said to Have Hired a Fortune Teller to "Remove" Her Rival. Combs Failure at Fort Wayne Amounts to \$150,000—Tax Dodgers Seem to Abound—End of a Kokomo Fight Over an Estate.

TALE OF A DARK PLOT.

A Fortune Teller Said to Have Been Employed to Put an End to the Way-Spokane to the Indianapolis Journal.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., April 15.—The grand jury has found an indictment for conspiracy to commit a felony against Mrs. Prellie, who is accused of employing a fortune teller to kill the widow Miller, on whose account Mrs. Prellie had separated from her husband. Mrs. Prellie was arrested. She protests her innocence, and says that the fortune teller sought her out after reading in the newspapers about her troubles. She denies that she offered him \$500 to cause Mrs. Miller's death, as is alleged. She admits that she did promise to recompense him if he brought about reconciliation with her husband.

The Prellies and Mrs. Miller formerly lived at Riley, this county. Shortly after Mrs. Prellie was separated from her husband, Mrs. Miller began a suit for \$10,000 against Mrs. Prellie for alienating her husband's affections. This suit was followed soon by a more sensational one, asking ten thousand dollars' damages from her husband and Mrs. Miller together on a charge of assaulting her (Mrs. Prellie) and attempting to kill her. The suits were both settled, and Prellie began a suit for divorce when she heard of the fortune teller's trick. Mrs. Miller, against whom Mrs. Prellie is said to have plotted, is a widow, and had made a will giving her property to the Prellie after her death.

It has been said of Mrs. Prellie that, early in her life, she became captivated by necromancers and fortune tellers, and believed whatever they told her. A short time after separation from her husband, and after she had taken up her residence in this city, she called upon Carl Richard, a fortune teller. On this occasion she is alleged to have made a proposition to the fortune teller to murder Mrs. Miller. According to the story being told she offered him \$500 to put Mrs. Miller out of the way. She agreed to pay him \$100 immediately after Mrs. Miller's death and the remainder after the funeral. Richard saw a chance to make some money and appeared to enter into the scheme.

On the 6th of January last he went to Riley, and going to Mrs. Miller's place of business he made some small purchases and ascertained the name of Mrs. Prellie's sixteen-year-old daughter Josie, who was living with her mother. Mrs. Prellie then went to the telegraph office and sent the following message to August Wegener, at whose house Mrs. Prellie was stopping temporarily:

RILEY, Ind., Jan. 6, 1893. Mr. Wegener: Tell mother that Mrs. Miller died at 8:15 o'clock this morning.

After sending the message Richard boarded the regular passenger train to Terre Haute this city. He called upon Mrs. Prellie and asked if she had heard from Riley, intimating that he had received his work. He was greatly surprised when Mrs. Prellie replied that she had received no word, and went to the telegraph office to investigate. He learned there that the message had just been received, and he ordered that it be delivered immediately. He then went to his room and awaited developments. In a short time Mrs. Prellie appeared and showed him the message which she thought was from her daughter. She showed it to him, and gave it to Richard, promising to pay him \$400 more as soon as Mrs. Miller was buried.

Richard, after receiving the money, skipped out and remained away for several weeks. He returned last week and called upon Mrs. Prellie, who was living in the east part of the city. She recognized him as the young man who had been in Riley, and accused him of sending the message of her death. He admitted having sent the message, and made a clean breast of the whole affair. Prellie and his wife were married at Culmer, France, June 6, 1883, and came to the United States on the 11th of November, 1871.

LIABILITIES NEARLY \$200,000.

Failure of Combs & Co., at Fort Wayne, an Overwhelming Collapse. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., April 15.—Much surprise was created here by the failure of the great iron and hardware house of Combs & Co., precipitated by the bankruptcy of partner F. A. Newton, filing a mortgage in the sum of \$90,000 yesterday to protect local creditors, together with Bryant & Boltz, of Huntington, A. C. Conklin & Co., of Cincinnati, and Seymour Combs & Co., of Chicago. Later developments indicate that the embarrassment is far more serious than at first supposed, and the belief is now general that the failure is complete and overwhelming, so far as any hope of saving anything for the estate of the deceased merchant is concerned. Telegraphic inquiries have been coming all day, indicating a heavier outside indebtedness than was at first supposed, and that second mortgages for \$100,000 were filed for record this afternoon to indemnify certain outside creditors, who have telegraphed their acceptance in the belief that they are among the first to secure their claims. The liabilities to outside creditors is now placed at \$120,000, making a grand total of nearly \$200,000. The heaviest losses are as follows: Cassin & Company, \$11,000; Slater Woolen Company, \$11,000; Standard Wheel Company, \$9,750; Hugh Smith, \$8,500. It is believed that the stock will invoice \$100,000. Sidney C. Lumbard has been appointed receiver, and has taken charge of the house.

AFTER THE TAX DODGERS.

Columbus Prosecuting Attorney Files Four Additional Suits for \$20,000. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

COLUMBUS, Ind., April 15.—In the Circuit Court here today four cases were filed by the prosecuting attorney, involving \$20,000. The defendants are the most wealthy and influential citizens in the city, being prominent business men. The first is against the firm of Keller & Brockman, contractors, the second against Adam Keller, the third John S. Crump, and the fourth against William Brockman individually. In each suit the prosecutor demands judgment in the sum of \$5,000. It is charged that the defendants failed to list for taxation property valued at \$120,000. This is the tenth suit of this kind that has been brought here within the last few months. By the filing of these cases over \$200,000 has been added to the tax duplicate in this county.

FIGHTING FOR THE WIDOW'S GOLD.

Tangled Litigation Over a Rich Estate at Kokomo Settled by a Compromise. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

KOKOMO, Ind., April 15.—A series of lawsuits, involving nearly \$100,000, were settled by a compromise here today, the litigation being over the estate of Christina Hooper, a wealthy German widow, who died here in 1888. Mrs. Hooper died childless, leaving no will, and relatives at once got into a quarrel over the property. Mrs. Augusta Schmidt, a niece of Mrs. Hooper, and who for a number of years made her home with the miserly old lady, filed action against the estate for \$50,000, claiming she had been adopted as a daughter, and was to be the sole heir and legatee. Mrs. Schmidt, whose home is at Walton, Cass county, said in her complaint that she left a school home in Germany at the earnest solicitation of her aunt, and rejecting an opportunity to marry well, came to America to take care of the aunt in her old

age; that Mrs. Hooper intended to make a will in her favor, but was prevented by sudden death. More than a dozen actions were pending, all of which were stayed by the settlement today. By the terms of the compromise Mrs. Schmidt gets a certain percentage in her own right, and the estate is to be divided into two parts, one to be paid to her and the other to be divided between six heirs. Mrs. Christiana Zacher, of Chicago, gets \$10,000; John Anawald, of New York, \$10,000; and C. E. Crumley, of Indianapolis, and Mrs. Louisa Tyre, of Cass county, this State, about \$8,000 each. The attorneys for the administrator were allowed \$5,000 for their services.

DEATHS AT LAFAYETTE.

Lawyer Robert Jones and William H. Ward, Two Prominent Citizens Pass Away. Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., April 15.—Robert Jones, one of the oldest members of the Lafayette bar, died this morning, aged seventy-three. Mr. Jones was for some years associated in Chicago with Gen. I. N. Stiles and George Gardner, one of the leading firms of that city. The funeral will be held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

William H. Ward, brother of the late Congressman Thomas B. Ward, died last night, aged sixty-four. The funeral takes place Monday afternoon. Major Richard of Indianapolis will be one of the pallbearers. Mr. Ward was one of the best known residents of Lafayette.

How They Found Each Other.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. YERKOWN, Ind., April 15.—Yesterday, while Miss May Hooper, a typewriter employed by the Western Improvement Company, was looking over the business cards of the West Minnie Enterprise, she recognized that of her brother, George S. Hooper, whom she had not seen since she was a small girl, when her brother left home, at Waterloo, N. Y., some fifteen years ago.

She went to Chicago, and while there he, with three others, went out in a boat for a sail on Lake Michigan, and from that time, seven years ago, he has been reported dead. Mr. Hooper had not even surmised that this was his sister, though he had been working here for several weeks as a painter and decorator, until last evening when she came to his boarding house and made herself known.

Pipe Line Right of Way, \$5.80 Per Rod.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. KOKOMO, Ind., April 15.—An important natural gas suit came to trial in Howard Circuit Court this week, arising from the appropriation of lands for a pipe line right of way. The result was a big victory for the land owners. The Chicago Gas Company several months ago laid its pipe line across the farm of Joseph Downing. There were eighty-six rods of it. Under the condemnatory proceedings the appraisers assessed the damages at \$61.40, or about 70 cents per rod. Downing kicked at the price and the case went to court. The jury after being out twenty-four hours, rendered a verdict giving the farmer \$500 damages, or at the rate of \$5.80 per rod.

Max Ehrman Killed with Ether.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. TERRE HAUTE, Ind., April 15.—Max Ehrman, a well-known citizen, died last night while the surgeons were preparing to perform an operation on him. He had swallowed a seed which caused an intestinal obstruction, which the surgeons were to remove with the knife. When the first application of ether was made, it was noticed that the patient sank rapidly. About a half dram had been administered when he was suspended by the neck, but he died in a few minutes, despite efforts to save his life.

A Brakeman's Terrible Experience.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. BEDFORD, Ind., April 15.—While an extra train was passing this city last night McGraw, one of the brakemen, had a narrow escape from being ground to pieces. He was applying brakes when the brake wheel became detached, and he was jerked between the cars. When found, three miles south, he was astride the axle and his left arm terribly mangled. The injury after being out twenty-four hours, rendered a verdict giving the farmer \$500 damages, or at the rate of \$5.80 per rod.

Railroad Official Changes.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. MUNIC, Ind., April 15.—Mr. C. E. Lytle, trainmaster of the Fort Wayne, Cincinnati & Louisville division of the L. E. & W. railway, has resigned and accepted the superintendency of the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic railway, with headquarters at Marquette, Mich. Mr. R. K. Kramer, formerly trainmaster of the Cleveland division of the Big Four, accepted the vacancy made by Mr. Lytle's resignation. His headquarters are in Munich.

Pendleton Corporation Ticket.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. PENDLETON, Ind., April 15.—The Republicans of Pendleton met in convention Saturday night, and put in nomination the following ticket for the corporation offices to be filled the first Monday in May: Treasurer—Second ward, George H. Rogers; Third ward, William Burdette; marshal, Walker Jackson; clerk and treasurer, C. E. Frank. W. Campbell, the present clerk and treasurer, has held the office continuously for nine years.

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Crawfordsville's Fourth Horse Show.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind., April 15.—The fourth annual horse show was held in this city yesterday. Many horses were in the city, and two hundred horses paraded the streets, headed by the band. Prizes, given by the business men, were awarded.

Clark Case Goes Over Until Monday.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. LAFAYETTE, Ind., April 15.—Out of respect to the memory of Robert Jones, one of the oldest members of this bar, the trial today, the Circuit Court adjourned until Monday, no witnesses being examined in the Clark case.

Indiana Notes.

The Indian Springs in Martin county will be opened for visitors on May 1.

A. H. Shaw, a well-known resident of Elkhart, died yesterday after one week's illness. He trusted his cure to a Christian science healer.

Yesterday, at Muncie, William Allen's team of Texas ponies ran away, spilling over four hundred dozen eggs in the street, where they were strewn along the road for several squares.

Kokomo has just completed a two-thousand-dollar fund to be expended in advertising the city. The money will all be expended in the next four months, special attention being made to attract world's fair visitors to either his personal or his official conduct.

Mr. Voorhees explained that his remarks yesterday were in reference to the institution of the position taken by the Senator from New Hampshire and other Senators on that side. The language which he had used in reference to Mr. Chandler he had heard used by others, and not at a very remote period from the present time.

Mr. Hansbrough also rose to a question of personal privilege and began by expressing the hope that the Senator would not adjourn without giving his colleague (Mr. Roach) the opportunity asked by him yesterday. Mr. Voorhees interrupted and said that the Senator from North Dakota was not speaking to a question of personal privilege.

The presiding officer (Mr. Faulkner) ruled that the Senator from North Dakota had the floor and must be the judge of what he should say.

Mr. Hansbrough thought that the matter was one of personal privilege. It related to his colleague and to his State. No political party in the Senate had the right to deny the privilege requested by his colleague. He hoped that the Senate would not adjourn without giving him the opportunity to clear himself from the charges against him, and he asked unanimous consent to have a vote taken on the resolution. Objection was made by several Democratic Senators. The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of executive business.

At 5:50 the doors were reopened and a resolution was offered by Mr. Mansbrough, and agreed to, tendering the thanks of the Senate to the Vice President for the impartiality and courtesy with which he had presided over the Senate during the present extraordinary session.

A motion to adjourn sine die was made by Mr. Hill, and was agreed to without a division.

RAN INTO THE REAR CAR.

A Locomotive Plows Her Way Through a Passenger Coach and Injures Three Men. BOUND BROOK, N. J., April 15.—At about 5 o'clock this morning an accident happened on the Philadelphia & Reading railroad at Skillman Station, between this place and Trenton, in which three men were seriously, but not fatally, injured. Their names are: John J. Hillard, of Elizabeth; Frederick Francis, of Jersey City, and Claude Lavella, of Philadelphia. The men were in the rear car of an express train, which had stopped at Skillman for orders. A minute after the express reached the station, and before the brakeman on the rear car could go back any distance to flag approaching trains, a locomotive rounded the curve and crashed into the train plowing half way through the rear car and striking the three men named. The telegraph operator at Skillman fainted when he saw the accident.

Railway Ties Piled on the Track. COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia., April 15.—A dastardly attempt was made yesterday to wreck the north-bound passenger train on the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs road, four miles north of this city. A great pile of railroad ties had been placed across the track. The engineer saw the obstruction in time to prevent a wreck.

A Murderer Shoots Himself.

CLINTON JUNCTION, Wis., April 15.—Mats Biron, the murderer of his wife and Mrs. Arthur Hearn, was captured to-day at the residence of John Carl, about two miles from the village. He came in to get warm and was recognized and the alarm given. On seeing a crowd gathered Biron shot himself below the eye. The wound is serious, but may not be fatal.

Sensible Woman.

Kingston Freeman. Carter Harrison announces in a newspaper interview that he would like to marry a certain Miss Nina Gillette, but that she would not have him. Nina seems to have more sense than the whole city of Chicago.

END OF THE EXTRA SESSION

Adjournment of the Senate Without Action on the Charges Against Roach. Mr. Voorhees' Argument Dissected by Mr. Platt and the Hooper's Demagogy Exposed—Daniel Also Hit by Mr. Chandler.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The extraordinary session of the Senate, after running exactly six weeks, closed to-day. The proposed investigation of the charges against Senator Roach formed the chief topic of the day's discussion. Three speeches were made upon it—two of them by the Republican Senators from Connecticut, Messrs. Platt and Hawley, in affirmation of the right and duty of the Senate to make the investigation, and the other by Mr. Mills in distinct denial of either the right or duty. All three were on the same subject, though differing in the guise of a question of personal privileges, were remarks by Mr. Chandler, Mr. Voorhees and Mr. Hansbrough. No disposition was made of either that matter or of the question as to the admission of three appointed Senators from Montana, Washington and Wyoming.

The reconstruction of Commissioner Blount in withdrawing the American flag from the government building in Honolulu was the groundwork of a resolution offered by Mr. Lodge directing the Secretary of State to inform the Senate by whose authority the flag was lowered, and to give information Mr. Butler wants the Senate to be informed at the same time by whose authority it was hoisted. The resolution and amendment were adopted without objection to immediate consideration being made by Mr. Tamm.

The President's nominee informed a committee of the Senate that he would have no further communication for the Senate. The session was adjourned at 6 o'clock, at which all obstacles to a final adjournment were smoothed away, and after the doors were reopened and some little matters of committee in conference adjusted, the Senate adjourned sine die.

Mr. Platt, in his remarks on the Hooper case, recited the charges against the North Dakota Senator, and submitted, in reply to a suggestion of Mr. Voorhees, that it was not a question of an individual, but a question of criminality. "The question is whether the Senate has the right and power to make the inquiry," said Mr. Platt. "If I have conceived that its duty is plain, if a convicted criminal who has just finished his time in a penitentiary should be sent here to the Senate, would you say that we are powerless to reject him or to expel him? I think that no precedent can be found in the United States or England, or any other civilized country, where the doctrine has been upheld that the Senate or the House of Representatives, to the rigid constitutional requisites for election as Senators or Representatives, or, on the contrary, although the precedents are in the nature of the case few, it has been always held that jurisdiction is given to require and investigate the qualifications of the members. It is contended that we should be obliged to admit a physical leper if a State should so choose. Mr. Gray—What would we do about it? A DRIVE AT THE SNEERING VOORHEES.

Mr. Platt—I would expel him. I would refuse to receive him in the first case, and if received without a knowledge of his history I would expel him. Coolidge Barr has come here and said: "I am thirty years of age; I have been a citizen of the State of New York for nine years," and would the Senate have been powerless to have made any other inquiry into his qualifications? Would not the great, notorious case of Coolidge Barr have been engaged in a treasonable conspiracy against the United States? Would not the Senate could have considered? If Aaron Burr had presented himself here with the credentials of a sovereign of State, would the Senate have been powerless to inquire into some other than the constitutional qualifications of a man seeking a seat in this body. I do not know that in the case of the Senator from North Dakota the Senate would be expelled. Speaking for myself, I desire to say that no amount of sneering, no amount of insinuation by Senators on the other side of the chamber will deter me from the performance of what I conceive to be a plain duty in this matter. If there be any Senator on this side of the chamber who would charge any other Senator can bring a charge of criminal dishonesty for anything, which he did before he became a Senator, I will vote for an inquiry, but I want to vote for it. If it is believed that there has been within the last five years any Senator on this side against whom there is a reasonable presumption that he was guilty of criminal dishonesty before he became a Senator, there would have been some Senator on the other side of the chamber not so tender-hearted, not so fearful of wounding the sensibilities of their brother Senators as the Senator from Indiana is, who would have introduced a resolution of investigation.

Mr. Mills made an argument against the right of the Senate to investigate, and Mr. Hawley argued in support of the right of the chamber to determine whether the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Voorhees) had said that he "might have heard," or that he "had heard" certain statements concerning his action as Secretary of the Navy. The Congressional Record this morning did not contain the Senator's speech, but he found in the Washington Post the following verbatim report:

I have heard it alleged of the Senator from Hampshire very strange things, and I have heard men say that while he was Secretary of the Navy he built a ship, and that he made but one trip to the bottom of the sea. I have heard it alleged that the contractors retained for their work were contented, and infamous—all at the same time.

VOORHEES SCORED BY CHANDLER.

Mr. Chandler said he thought he had kept pretty good time in the Senate, and he took from him from time to time, to be personal and official, but that he had never heard of these charges before. The only ships that were built while he was Secretary of the Navy were the Chicago, the Boston, the Atlanta and the Dolphin, and these ships, he thought, were very much talked at this day. When the revised would take place in Hampton roads, and New York harbor, those ships would appear as fine ships as existed in the world, of the period of their construction. The Dolphin would contain the President and his Cabinet and many Senators, and he devoutly hoped that she would not go, as she never had gone, to the bottom of the sea. The contracts for these ships had been made with John Roach, and he could not be to him that the Senator alluded to as one of those who had retired from the Senate, and who had been succeeded by his successor as Secretary of the Navy. He alluded to the Senator's charges, and said that he had had a broken-hearted man, he desired to interpose a distinct denial to Mr. Voorhees' charges, and deny also any imputation that had found its way into the public prints in any way affecting either his personal or his official conduct.

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HAVE MOVED

Our M in Office to the Commercial Club Building

First Floor, Rear Bank.

INDIANAPOLIS COMMISSION COMPANY

BROKERS

Grain, Provisions and Stocks

QUICK TRADES. IMMEDIATE SETTLEMENTS.

P. one 1375.

DR. ROBERT HESSLER

Has removed his up-town office and residence to NO. 1027 N. MISSISSIPPI STREET. Telephone 1657.

THE INDIANA TRUST CO.,

INDIANAPOLIS—CAPITAL \$1,000,000

Will Commence Business May 1.

Will act as Executor, Administrator, Guardian, Trustee, Assignee, Receiver or Agent, and attend to the safe investment of funds.

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J. P. FRENZEL, President. FRED'K FAHNLEY, First Vice President. E. G. CORNELIUS, Second Vice President. JOHN A. BUTLER, Secretary.

DIRECTORS:

James F. Failey, Edward G. Cornelius, Wm. Hanseisen, Frederick Fahnlley, Albert Lieber, Edward Hawkins, F. G. Darlington, Otto N. Frenzel, Chas. B. Stuart, Henry W. Lawrence, J. P. Frenzel.

A HEAVY SHOE FAILURE

Large Shoe Firm Pushed to the Wall.

Worth of first-class Boots, Shoes and Slippers, from the late firm of Walker, Rivers & Co., of New York, will be placed on sale in this city, to be closed out at retail for a small fraction of their value, in the large warehouse.

\$37,000

14-EAST WASHINGTON STREET-14

WAIT!—ATTEND THE GRAND OPENING THIS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 9 A. M.—WAIT!

READ, READ, LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

The large and well-known Shoe firm of Walker, Rivers & Co. failed for the amount of \$37,000, and the creditors have taken their stock in hand and have shipped it to Indianapolis to be closed out. This is no cheaply made-up goods to be sold at a sale, but a fine line made for the best of trade, but on account of the unprecedented soft weather were forced to make an assignment, and the creditors realizing on their account, will sell any of the thousands of fine Shoes at 32 per cent. less on the dollar than the manufacturer's cost.

WE MUST SELL.

The store is now closed, making arrangements for the great sale, and no one, positively, allowed in the building until the grand opening. We must close out this immense stock, and if you want to save money attend this sale.

Many more bargains are offered, which, on account of space, cannot-mention. Be sure to see the bargain counters, we have shoes on them and they must go.

This is indeed a big funeral for the creditors, but a grand picnic for the public. Remember the date of the opening, Wednesday, April 19. You have all the conveniences of a shoe store and polite clerks to wait on you. This will be the greatest sale on record; don't miss it. Bear in mind the doors open Wednesday morning, at 9 o'clock, and if you want bargains be on hand.

GREAT BANKRUPT SALE OF BOOTS, SHOES AND SLIPPERS

To be sold for the benefit of the creditors under the management of the Standard Shoe Company.

14-EAST WASHINGTON STREET-14

Look for Signs and Number.

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